

09/869277

Attorney Docket No.: 07553.0023

Customer Number: 22,852

JCT8301701 26 JUN 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Kiichi HAMA et al.)
Serial No.: Not yet assigned) Group Art Unit:
Filed: June 26, 2001) Examiner:

For: PLASMA PROCESSING METHOD

U.S. NATIONAL PHASE APPLICATION BASED ON PCT/JP99/07176

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Publication No. 09-181172;
2. Japanese Publication No. 05-267231;
3. Japanese Publication No. 09-129611;
4. Japanese Publication No. 07-263409;
5. Japanese Publication No. 02-280323;

6. Japanese Publication No. 08-130211;
7. Japanese Publication No. 11-243082;
8. Japanese Publication No. 08-130211; and
9. Japanese Publication No. 09-129611.

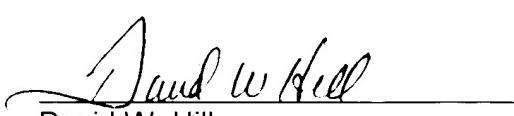
In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the listed non-English language documents, an English-language abstract of the documents setting forth the relevance is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 
David W. Hill
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Dated: June 26, 2001
Enclosures
DWH/FPD/peg

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OMB No. 0651-0011

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

26 JUN 2001

Atty. Docket No. 07553 0023		Serial No. Not Yet Assigned				
Applicant Kiichi HAMA et al.						
Filing Date June 26, 2001	Group					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5.919.332	7/6/99	Koshiishi et al.	156	345	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	09-181172	7/11/97	Japan			Abstract ✓
	05-267231	10/15/93	Japan			Abstract ✓
	09-129611	5/16/97	Japan			Abstract ✓
	07-263409	10/13/95	Japan			Abstract ✓
	02-280323	11/16/90	Japan			Abstract ✓
	08-130211	5/21/96	Japan			Abstract ✓
	11-243082	9/7/99	Japan			Abstract ✓
	08-130211	5/21/96	Japan			Abstract ✓
	09-129611	5/16/97	Japan			Abstract ✓
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
Examiner	Date Considered					
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>						
Form PTO 1449		Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce				